* Possibility of soliciting technical assistance for developing Indian expertise, enhancing technical assistance for developing India expertise, enhancing technical and institutional capacity on environmental issues with focus on waste, climate change, air pollution, water and chemicals exists under "Action Plan Support Facility Programme-APSF Program" designed to implement India-EU Action Plan linked to India-EU Strategic Partnership Initiative. ASRF Progam will become operational from Oct. 1, 2007 with EC contribution share of $8M.

* Climate change and air quality, climate change impacts and extreme, events, adaptation and mitigation strategies have emerged as research priorities for strengthening future collaboration at India-EU Workshop on Climate Change Research Needs (Feb. 08-9-2007)

* Government is undertaking range of policies and programmes to mitigate environmental changes and global warming. Comprehensive coordinated effort is being undertaking at national level by Ministry of Earth Science. Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune as national lead institute is covering observational and modeling aspects. Collaborative projects are underway with international community on topics such as climate change assessment and impact analysis, study of aerosols as part of atmospheric brown cloud program.

Non-utilization of modern technology

†2996. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the latest modern technology is not being used in the fields of agriculture, industry and service sector in India due to lack of the research work;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that agriculture and industry of the country have failed to complete at the level of international market; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government has set up a number of research institutions under the various ministries and departments which promote and support research work for development and utilization of state of the art modern technology in the agriculture, industry and services sectors. As a result, the country has been able to complete in the international market in some areas of agriculture and industry.

Performance in Research in Science and Technology

†2997. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the required progress has not been made in research in the field of science and technology from the point of view of the world level competition level competition alongwith the requirements of the country and the challenges of future;

(b) whether it is a fact that not even 20 per cent of the funds provided for the research for the research in science and technology during the financial year 2005-06, has not been utilized; and

(c) if so, Government's view in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. Considering the limited resources and facilities available for research, the Indian scientists have indeed performed well during the last five decades. The world-level competition in scientific research is measured by research papers published incited journals. The number of research papers published by scientists in India has been slowly increasing in absolute terms over the past twenty five years (from 14983 in 1980 to 19448 in 2005). While its share as percentage of world publications declined from 2.9% in 1980 to 1.9% in 2005, it has increased from1.5% to 1.9% in the last 10 years. In terms of citations also, which is considered to be a standard indicator of quality, India's performance has increased from 0.76 in 1993-97 to 0.86 in 1997-2001. Its share to top 1% highly cited publication increased from 0.32 in 1993-97 to 0.54 in 1997-2001. Even the number of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.